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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP

S/N

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Blankenstein	Examiner:	C. Chin
Serial No.:	09/254,310	Group Art Unit:	1641
Filed:	December 16, 1999	Docket No.:	5799.130USWO
Title:	A MICRO FLOW SYSTEM FOR PARTICLE SEPARATION AND ANALYSIS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 11, 2002.

By: Victoria Hanson
Name: Victoria Hanson

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed October 10, 2001, Applicant offers the following remarks.

Claims 40-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner asserts that claims 40 and 69 are vague and indefinite because it is not clear as to what "field" is being referred to. The Examiner further asserts that "it appears that a magnetic field is being referred to."

Applicant asserts that the term "field" is fully defined within the specification, and is definite. Applicant further asserts that based on the description and definition within the specification, it is clear that "field" may refer to more than just a magnetic field.

The specification is replete with instances in which the term "field" is defined and described. The specification offers a number of examples of what the "field" may be. "The field may be a magnetic field, an electric field, a gravity field, etc., and any combination of such fields." (page 8, lines 4-5). The specification continues at page 8 to offer detailed description of attributes and characteristics of both magnetic fields (page 8, line 7-25) and electric fields (page 9, lines 15-25).

The specification also offers figures and description thereof, which provide numerous examples of magnetic, electrical, and gravitational fields. Some specific examples of this discussion in the figures include: figure 1-a magnetic field (page 18, lines 33-35), figure 2-a gravitational field (page 19, lines 33-36), figure 3-an electric field (page 21, lines 8-16), figure 6-a magnetic field (page 22, lines 18-21), figures 9(b) and 9(c)-a combination of a magnetic, and hydrodynamic or gravitation fields (page 25, lines 15-21), and figure 12(a)-an electrical field (page 26, lines 7-13). The Examples also offer results and experiments accomplished with different fields being used including magnetic and electric fields.

Applicant respectfully asserts that it is clear, based on the specification what the term "field" refers to, and specifically, that it can refer to more than a magnetic field. Therefore, Applicant requests withdrawal of this rejection.

In view of the above comments, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT& GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612/332-5300

Date: March 11, 2002

Anna M. Nelson
Reg. No. 48,935
AMN